decision on the issue is still under consideration, no cases have been registered so far.

(b) to (e) In view of reply to (a) above, these questions do not arise.

Standard Deduction form Pensions of Ex-MPs. and Freedom Fighters

2530. SHRIMATI MIRA DAS:
SHRI SARADA MOHANTY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any provision of standard deduction from income tax from the pension drawn by ex-Members of Parliament and the freedom fighters; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKAR MURTHY): (a) There is no such provision in the Income Tax Act, 1961.

(b) *Does not arise.*

Officers Union in Bank of Maharashtra

2531. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) which is the recognised and largest officers union in Bank of Maharashtra;

(b) whether it is represented in the Board of Directors of the same Bank; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof and if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) to (c) The post of officer employee Director on the Board of Bank of Maharashtra is at present vacant. The Bank has taken up the process of verification of membership of the officers association and an officer employee Director on the Board of Bank of Maharashtra will be appointed by the Government after the Bank finalises the verification process, and takes a decision about the officer's association having majority.

Collection of Tax on the basis of information

2532. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total tax collected basing on the information of informers during the last three years, year-wise; and

(b) what is the amount spent in rewarding the informants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) The Direct Taxes are collected by the Income Tax Department at several stages before and after the completion of assessments as also on finalisation of appeals etc. Part of the taxes collected may result from information furnished by informers while the remaining may be voluntary payment as well as tax collected due to the investigation made by the Income-tax department. On the other hand, stay orders may be obtained against searches and seizures, assessments, recovery proceedings etc. Therefore, consolidated year-wise record of collection of taxes resulting alone from information furnished by informers is not maintained in the Income-tax department.

Similarly Customs and Central Excise department also does not maintain separate figures of tax collection, on the basis of information furnished by Informants. The time, effort and expenditure involved in the maintenance of this information would not be